

2100 Indian Creek Blvd East, Apt. A-119
Vero Beach, Florida 32966

January 7, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

We are now in a new year, one that, I know, all of us wish to be one of peace and forward progress. We are progressing in our quest to end terrorism but now, I think, we need to re-establish our economic footing. Microsoft and the Department of Justice recently ended the three-year long antitrust case brought by the Department of Justice. My sentiments on the correctness of this suit are not relevant; suffice it to say, I am glad it is over. I believe the settlement, while not easy for Microsoft, was fair. Microsoft acquiesced to demands that were not even at issue in the suit. It is time to move on.

Which is why I am writing to you now. I am urging you, as an American anxious to get this country going again, to let stand the settlement reached by Microsoft and the Department of Justice. To nitpick every little thing in this settlement is very counter-productive. There has already been established a "Technical Committee" that will monitor Microsoft's compliance. Additionally, any third party may lodge a complaint with an Internal Compliance Officer at Microsoft, or the Department of Justice, if they believe Microsoft is not complying with any provision of the settlement.

What more can be asked? Are we to cave in to every demand by those whose only desire is to cripple Microsoft, not by any innate desire for justice? Bill Gates has carried the technological explosion on his shoulders for far too long. Those questioning this decision wish only to drag him and Microsoft down. Do not give in to such pettiness. I urge you to finalize this settlement.

Sincerely,

